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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 33 | Min 21 | Humidity 39% Partly Sunny & Less Humid Sensex 74,029 | Nifty 22,470 | Gold 86,616 | Silver 99,286 | Dollar 87.16 | Euro 95.13 | GBP 113.13

PLUG THE LEAK

BWSSB plans to spend Rs 104 crore to prevent revenue loss by controlling leakage in aging pipelines

PAGE 4

CAN'T FIGURE THIS

Activists say Forest Dept's claims of 901 new encroachment cases across state's forests don't tally

PAGE 9

Overloaded, uncovered trucks, tractors transporting construction material violate norms, spread dust

DEBRIS DRIBBLE

Most drivers also ignore mandates on warning indicators

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Bengaluru's roads are increasingly witnessing a serious hazard due to uncovered trucks and tractors transporting construction materials such as mud, sand, and garbage. These vehicles, often operating round the clock due to relaxed restrictions on construction material transport, frequently spill debris onto roads, leading to safety concerns and traffic disruptions.

Motorists navigating city roads and highways BM spoke to told us about their encounters with loose gravel, dust, and even large chunks of soil falling off moving trucks. A recent incident near Hebbal Flyover, where a truck carrying soil spilled its load onto the flyover, significantly slowed down traffic movement. "The tipper truck's doors were not locked properly, leading to soil falling onto the road and slowing down traffic movement," said a Hebbal Traffic Police official, adding that the tipper truck driver was booked and the soil was cleared from the road within 15 minutes.

This is not an isolated incident, as similar occurrences are frequent on flyovers and highways,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

In this file photo, a truck without necessary safety arrangements for workers seen in the outskirts of the city

"Many of these trucks are overloaded because an extra trip means additional time and cost. If they ensure that mud or soil is loaded below the brim and properly covered, it won't slide onto the roads —Siri Gowda, DCP North Traffic

The landfill conundrum

Waste management body dismisses villagers' claims of polluted lakes as inaccurate; trucks still not allowed into Mittaganahalli

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While the standoff between Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd (BSWML) and villagers around Mittaganahalli landfill continued even on Wednesday, BSWML officials say claims made by villagers regarding pollution of lakes in the area are inaccurate and fictitious.

They point to the water quality analysis report of some of the water bodies in the area by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).

As per the KSPCB's report in January, the water quality report of Kannuru Lake, one of the water bodies claimed to be polluted due to unscientific disposal of waste in Mittaganahalli landfill, is not as bad as being projected, says BSWML.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Stage stories

Prestige Centre for Performing Arts is presenting Chuguru, its first Kannada Theatre Festival. The festival will feature six original productions by prominent theatre groups from Bengaluru, providing a platform for fresh narratives and creative storytelling. **Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Konanakunte; When: March 14 to 16, 3.30 pm and 7.30 pm**

02 Textile treasures

The National Design Centre, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, is set to host the Bengaluru Saree Festival that will bring together 75 skilled handloom weavers, Self-Help Groups, and cooperative societies from across India to showcase the rich diversity of Indian handloom sarees. **Where: Shubh Convention Centre, JP Nagar; When: March 14 to 20**

03 Instant wit

Small World is organising an improv workshop, offering a chance to hone your quick thinking skills, and unleash your creativity within two-minute impromptu challenges, turning unexpected topics into captivating performances. **Where: Small World, Koramangala; When: March 29, 4 pm**

04 Jam session

Windmills is presenting an electrifying two-night performance by Shake Stew, one of Europe's most exciting contemporary jazz ensembles. Known for their high-energy blend of groove jazz and Afrobeat, the Austrian septet will be bringing their signature sound to India. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: March 14 and 15**

05 Holi celebration

Bhoomija and Prestige Centre for Performing Arts are presenting 'Holi Re!', a grand celebration of music and dance featuring the legendary Begum Parween Sultana, and the globally acclaimed Nrityagram dance ensemble. **Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Konanakunte; When: March 15, 6.30 pm**

Inaction over missing stray dog sparks outrage

Animal rights advocates argue that FIR filed immediately could have helped alleviate issue, delayed action raises concerns about dog's well-being and safety

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A woman from Ranka Colony has filed a complaint at Mico Layout Police Station, alleging police inaction after her community-cared stray dog, Gogo, mysteriously vanished on February 2. The complainant, who had been caring for the dog along with other residents, claimed that authorities only took her case seriously after she escalated the matter to senior officials.

The case has sparked discussions about the treatment of community animals, and the need for stricter enforcement of animal protection laws in Bengaluru.

Gogo's disappearance

According to the complaint, the woman noticed three to four unidentified individuals carrying a suspicious bag outside the Ranka Colony apartment gate around 2 am on February 2. At the time, she did not find anything unusual. However, on February 5, she was informed that Gogo, a sterilized and vaccinated community dog, had gone missing between the night of February 1 and the morning of February 2.

Examination of the CCTV footage from the residential complex revealed that the footage from 7 pm on February 1 to 6 am on February 2 had been mysteriously deleted. This revelation deepened suspicion that Gogo's disappearance was not accidental but a deliberate act.

Tampering with evidence?

The complainant suspects that someone within the Ranka Colony residency may have played a role in Gogo's disappearance. In her complaint letter, she requested a first information report (FIR) against the Resident Welfare Association members, residents, and security personnel for allegedly tampering with CCTV evidence, negligence, obstruction of justice, criminal conspiracy, and harassment. She also fears that Gogo's illegal relocation could have resulted in severe trauma or even death.

Despite filing a formal complaint, the woman alleged that the police initially hesitated to register an FIR due to a lack of substantial evidence. Frustrated by the delay, she approached senior police officials, leading to the eventual registration of the case. She also claimed that she received an inadequate response from Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials when she approached them for help.

Delayed action raises concerns

Despite repeated appeals to the Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) and the Chief Commissioner of BBMP Animal Husbandry Department (AHD), no concrete action was taken. Animal rights advocates argued that an FIR filed immediately could have expedited Gogo's recovery, but the delay raises fears about the dog's well-being.

After multiple failed attempts, the complainant approached the Chief Commissioner during a public grievance meeting on February 18, 2025, in Bommanahalli zone. As a result, officials directed the local authorities to submit a compliance report. Following this, a complaint was registered at Mico Layout Police Station, under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023 (U/s-325), which penalizes harm to animals, including killing, poisoning, maiming, or incapacitating them, with up to five years of imprisonment, a fine, or both.

BBMP investigation

BBMP officials explained that the deletion of CCTV footage is being investigated. It was also noted that the complainant, Nirmala Aravamudhan from Lake View Residency Layout, Kodichikkanahalli, was not a resident of Ranka Colony in Bilekahalli.

Animal activist Nirmala Aravamudhan stated that although she was an outsider, she filed the complaint out of concern for all animals. "The lives of pet dogs and community dogs are fundamentally different and cannot be equated. The BBMP Animal Husbandry Department (AHD) is responsible for their welfare. These dogs do not belong to any individual, they are part of the community," she said.

As the investigation continues, the woman remains determined to seek justice for Gogo, urging authorities to take firm action against those responsible. The case has sparked discussions about the treatment of community animals, and the need for stricter enforcement of animal protection laws in Bengaluru.

All work and no fair pay

Anganwadi workers are set to stage a massive protest at Freedom Park if their long-pending demands are not met. Hundreds of Anganwadi workers had carried out a protest at Freedom Park in February, urging the government to fulfil their demands in the state budget.

The Karnataka State Anganwadi Workers and Assistants Joint Action Committee, on Wednesday, announced that a protest would be held at Freedom Park if the state government failed to meet their demands. "Congress in its election manifesto has assured ₹15,000 to Anganwadi workers and ₹10,000 honorarium for Anganwadi assistants per month, but Congress has not honored its commitment after coming to power in the state. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced Rs 1,000 and Rs 750 for Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi assistants, per month," said Karnataka State Anganwadi Workers Federation President Shivashankar GR.

He expressed his opposition to the Chief Minister's decision to increase wages by Rs 1,000 for Anganwadi workers, and Rs 750 for assistants. "We have decided to stage a massive protest at Freedom Park if the government fails to meet the demands," he said.

Karnataka State Anganwadi Workers Federation (affiliated to All India Trade Union Congress) General Secretary M Jayamma said that the government has failed to meet their demands even after a year of assuming office. "We want the government to consider the seniority of Anganwadi workers while increasing honorarium," she said.

Additionally, she demanded that the Chief Minister direct the Minister for Women and Child Development and other officials to take all the associations of Anganwadi workers into confidence while making decisions.

Anganwadi workers have announced a protest if the state government does not fulfil their demands

The Karnataka State Anganwadi Workers Federation has also called for the provision of gratuity to retired Anganwadi workers and assistants, as per the Supreme Court's directive. "We want the state government to cancel the decision to sanction gratuity for those retired from April 1, 2023. We want the government to sanction gratuity for Anganwadi workers and assistants who retired from the year 2011-12," Jayamma said. — BMB

New shelters to ensure welfare

Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) has added three habitat shelters for giraffes, zebras, and tigers. The shelters have been constructed at a cost of ₹9 lakh under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative of Mitsubishi Electric. The initiative was facilitated by Vibhinna India Foundation, a non-profit organization committed to environmental and wildlife conservation. The newly established shelters were inaugurated on Tuesday. These shelters are aimed to provide a comfortable and safe environment for the animals, ensuring their well-being and welfare in captivity. — BMB

Police officer named in suicide note, remanded for 14 days

Allegations of torture and extortion have led to the 14-day judicial custody of Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP) Kanakalakshmi BM following the suicide of a woman, Jeeva S.

Jeeva S, who was an accused in an ongoing case under Siddapura Police Station Mo No 56/2023, allegedly endured extreme mental and physical torment at the hands of DySP Kanakalakshmi during an investigation. According to a complaint filed by Jeeva's younger sister, Sangeeta S, the officer subjected Jeeva to humiliation, coercion, and financial extortion. It is alleged that between November 14 and November 21, 2024, Kanakalakshmi not only verbally and physically harassed Jeeva but also demanded a bribe of ₹25 lakhs.

On November 22, Jeeva was found dead in her residence, an apparent suicide by hanging. An 11-page death note recovered from her room named DySP Kanakalakshmi as the primary cause of her distress. The note detailed a harrowing account of abuse, including being forced to strip and being verbally assaulted during the investigation. The case was initially

registered at Banashankari Police Station before being transferred to the Special Inquiry Cell of CCB Bangalore.

Following a thorough inquiry, a case was registered against Kanakalakshmi under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, and Section 108 of the IPC. On March 11, 2025, she was arrested and remanded in custody, pending further legal proceedings.

Investigation unveils evidence

A breakthrough in the CID investigation has revealed crucial evidence corroborating allegations of torture and harassment against DySP Kanakalakshmi.

The investigation uncovered CID records of DySP Kanakalakshmi's visits and the vehicle logbook of KA-03/G-1883, which is linked to the accused.

The CID has seized two 16TB external hard disks from Western Digital, a 128GB Sandisk pen drive containing critical video footage, and multiple mobile phones, including a Vivo Y-28 5G device belonging to the accused.

Investigators have also secured CCTV footage from the CID office and other locations, along with statements from police notices and affidavits that are relevant to the ongoing inquiry. **BMB**

HC questions broad scope of micro loan ordinance

The Karnataka High Court has reserved its judgment on a petition challenging the constitutional validity of the Karnataka Micro Loan and Small Loan (Prevention of Coercive Actions) Ordinance, 2025. The Ordinance aims to protect economically disadvantaged individuals from aggressive loan recovery practices.

During a brief hearing, Justice M Nagaprasanna noted that the key issue appeared to be the Ordinance's broad applicability beyond microfinance institutions (MFIs). Karnataka's Advocate General, Shashi Kiran Shetty, argued that the law specifically protects vulnerable borrowers and suggested that the petitioner—an association of lenders—may not be directly impacted.

However, the Court acknowledged concerns about the Ordinance's effect on loan recoveries. "If you want to protect only microfinance borrowers, why include money lending agencies, organisations, and lenders?" the judge asked. The AG responded that microfinancing happens through various channels and cited the RBI's definition of microfinance loans as collateral-free loans for households earning up to ₹3 lakh annually. He added that the Ordinance was enacted in response to multiple suicides linked to loan distress. **BMB**

In-laws face cruelty charges

The Karnataka High Court declined to dismiss proceedings against a couple, noting evidence of their assault on their daughter-in-law by pulling her hair.

Justice M Nagaprasanna stated that the dismissal of charges under the Dowry Prohibition Act does not absolve the petitioners of their actions.

The complainant's father-in-law, employed in government service, and his wife from Hosapete had disputed the proceedings before the Senior Civil Judge and JMFC, Kudligi. The complainant wed the petitioner's son on July 2, 2021. She alleged being pressured to provide 24 tolas of gold and Rs 50 lakh as dowry.

Following the birth of her son on April 1, 2022, she faced physical abuse regarding dowry demands, with threats that their son would remarry. In January 2023, she left for her parent's residence and subsequently registered a complaint against her spouse and in-laws. The petitioners noted that whilst filing the chargesheet, police had removed offences under Sections 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, maintaining only IPC charges. They argued that without dowry demands, Section 498A of the IPC was inapplicable. The complainant countered that she endured torture from all three accused, warranting a trial. The court identified specific instances of torture against the complainant. The chargesheet mentioned a neighbour who heard the screams and came to assist. **BMB**

Legal relief for Hukkeri

The Karnataka High Court has directed the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) to follow proper legal procedures before taking any coercive action against Jatin V Hukkeri, the spouse of actress Ranya Rao.

The order was issued by Justice Hemant Chandangoudar while hearing a petition filed by Jatin, who expressed fears of being arrested in connection with a gold smuggling case involving his wife at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

He urged the court to ensure that the DRI adheres to legal protocols before proceeding against him.

Jatin's counsel argued that allegations against Ranya should not automatically implicate her husband without evidence of his involvement.

The defence highlighted Jatin's compliance with previous DRI summons and inquiries, raising concerns about a possible arrest without following Supreme Court guidelines.

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₹104-crore investment to secure water supply

With the project, BWSSB aims to plug leakage, improve water supply efficiency, and reduce non-revenue water through phased pipeline upgrades

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Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has initiated a ₹104 crore project to reduce non-revenue water (NRW) by controlling leakage in aging pipelines. The BWSSB currently supplies water to 10.70 lakh connections across a population of over 1.50 crore in its 18.6.die. jurisdiction. However, pipelines of various diameters, installed nearly 40 to 50 years ago, have suffered significant wear and tear over time, leading to frequent water leakage. This has resulted in both water wastage and financial losses for the board. To address this issue, BWSSB is set to begin the second phase of pipeline replacement across select regions to bring down NRW levels.

Phased execution to avoid financial burden

A BWSSB official said, "The estimated cost for replacing old pipelines and rejuvenating water reservoirs is around ₹8,000 crore. Given the financial implications of executing all works simultaneously, BWSSB has decided to undertake the project in a phased manner."

As per Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organization (CPHEEO) standards, the permissible NRW level should be below 15%. In 2007, Bangalore's NRW stood at 50.91%, which BWSSB has gradually reduced through various initiatives. After implementing the first phase of the NRW reduction project, the leakage rate was lowered by 2% by 2023. The second phase will now focus on further reducing water loss to meet CPHEEO standards.

Second Phase

The second phase of work is set to commence in areas such as Halasuru Service Station limits, Johnson Market, Domlur, Machalibetta, Jayamahal, Ramaswamy Palya, and Pulakeshinagar. The key focus of the project includes upgrading old pipeline infrastructure, revamping the water supply network, installing bulk flow meters to accurately measure water distribution, monitoring and replacing faulty water meters, and detecting and regularising unauthorised water connections. These initiatives aim to reduce water wastage, enhance supply efficiency, and ensure accurate billing.

A BWSSB official added, "Our assessment has identified several major reasons contributing to non-revenue water (NRW) loss. Public pipelines account for around 6% of leakage, while vehicle movement over roads causes cracks in pipelines, leading to an additional 5% loss. Defects in household water connections contribute to 4% of NRW, and faulty water meters are responsible for another 4%. Additionally, leakages in old and dilapidated ground-level reservoirs (GLRs) further add to a 5% loss. Addressing these issues is critical in minimising water wastage and improving overall distribution efficiency."

> **"Replacing old pipelines requires road excavation, making it impossible to complete all works at once** – BWSSB Official

In 2018, BWSSB launched the first phase of its NRW reduction initiative across Bengaluru South, West, Central, and North divisions, successfully bringing down NRW to 28%. The board is now determined to further lower leakage levels through systematic and incremental interventions. "Replacing old pipelines requires road excavation, making it impossible to complete all works at once. Hence, we will carry out the project in a step-by-step approach. The initiative is expected to significantly improve water conservation and financial efficiency in Bengaluru's water supply network", an official added.

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Cleanup needed

BTM Layout

An advertisement banner removed or replaced at the BTM Udupi Garden Signal bus stand has been dumped on top of the stand. Requesting assistance in clearing it.

Road damage

Horamavu

The 1st Cross, Water Tank Road in Horamavu has been damaged due to BWSSB work. While other roads have been repaired, this stretch remains neglected, causing inconvenience to residents, including senior citizens. Urging BBMP to take immediate action.

Vehicles carrying construction material don't follow norms

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

where heavy vehicles transporting construction materials ply without proper covering. Many instances where trucks transporting mud, soil, and garbage fail to cover their loads properly, leading to unintended traffic disruptions.

Extra load to save time and resources

In North Bengaluru, where major infrastructure projects like BMRCL, BDA, and the suburban railway are underway, heavy trucks transporting mud, soil, sand, and construction materials frequently violate safety regulations. Despite receiving permissions from concerned authorities, many fail to comply with mandatory safety measures, leading to frequent road hazards.

According to DCP North Traffic Siri Gowda, truck operators often overload their vehicles to save time and resources, ignoring the requirement to cover their cargo properly or keep loads below the brim to prevent spillage. "Many of these trucks are overloaded because an extra trip means additional time and cost. If they ensure that mud or soil is loaded below the brim and properly covered, it won't slide onto the roads. But in an attempt to cut corners, they violate safety norms," the DCP North Traffic explained.

No special drive in weeks

Despite regulations mandating warning indicators such as red flags and blinkers for trucks transporting iron rods, construction debris, and other bulky materials, many drivers fail to comply.

Additionally, tipper truck doors must be securely locked to prevent accidental spills, yet violations continue.

While enforcement drives have been conducted in the past, the last major crackdown on overloaded trucks took place before the Aero Show. With repeated violations and an increasing threat to road safety, authorities may need to step up inspections and enforcement measures to ensure compliance and prevent further incidents.

City's waste issue is festering

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As per KSPCB's report, the total coliform level in Kannuru Lake is 4,800 MPN/100ml, with a pH of 8. CPCB states that a water body can be used as a drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection if the total coliform organism is less than 5,000MPN/100ml and the pH level is between 6 and 9.

Notably, Kannuru Gram Panchayat officials, in a written complaint to the Additional Chief Secretary of Government of Karnataka on March 10 had alleged that all surrounding lakes - Mittaganahalli Lake, Kannuru Lake, Chikkagubbi Lake, Doddagubbi Lake, and Rampura Lake - have been polluted, and almost all the fish in these lakes died nearly a month ago. However, Ashok Gowda, president of Kannuru Grama Panchayat, said that the water quality of the lakes is being tested by the GP with the help of a third party.

"Although change in water quality and presence of pollution is apparent in these lakes, we are conducting water quality analysis to ascertain the extent of damage," said Gowda.

No entry

However, the villagers did not allow garbage trucks to unload at the landfill, even on Wednesday.

"We will not allow trucks to dump garbage at the landfill anymore. We demand that BSWML stop using Mittaganahalli to dump Bengaluru's garbage and work toward the improvement of the environment that has been damaged due to the landfill over the past nine years. The water quality of the lakes in the area has deteriorated significantly due to this unscientific disposal of mixed waste along with hazardous substances. Although we have stopped the entry of garbage trucks, BSWML has not tried to speak with GP officials so far," said Gowda. According to BSWML, talks to convince villagers to allow trucks to enter the landfill area are on, and an outcome is expected soon.

"We are trying to understand their issue and provide every possible solution. So far, the situation has not gotten out of hand, as garbage collection is still happening efficiently. We will come up with a solution soon," said a senior BWSML official.

MANIPAL HOSPITALS HOSTS PIONEERING RENAL CONCLAVE ON WORLD KIDNEY DAY

Medical Experts Weigh In

"The prevalence of CKD is estimated at 800 cases per million, with 200 cases per million progressing to End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Early detection and management are critical to combating this silent epidemic."

Dr. G.K. Prakash, Consultant-Nephrology & Transplant Physician at Manipal Hospitals Malleshwaram & Millers Road

"Take care of your kidneys, and they will take care of you. Unhealthy lifestyles, obesity, harmful foods, smoking, and unnecessary medications contribute to kidney damage. Routine health check-ups can prevent irreversible harm."

Dr. Vishwanath S. HOD and Consultant-Nephrology, Kidney Transplant Physician, Manipal Hospitals Old Airport Road

" This event fostered collaboration among nephrologists, researchers, and healthcare professionals. Its impact will extend beyond today, driving advancements in patient care and renal research."

Dr. Rohan Augustine, Consultant-Nephrology & Transplant Physician at Manipal Hospitals Old Airport Road

"Kidney disease often goes unnoticed until it's too late. Community action, better diets and education can curb its spread."

Dr. Mohammed Fahad, Consultant-Nephrology at Manipal Hospitals Old Airport Road

"Every one must monitor their kidney health through simple tests such as serum creatinine levels, urine analysis, and ultrasound scans."

Dr. Ravi Jangamani, Consultant-Nephrology at Manipal Hospitals Old Airport Road

"Robotic kidney transplants offer precision, minimal scarring, and faster recovery, revolutionising surgery. Advanced robotic techniques enhance kidney disease treatment, especially in women, reducing complications. These innovations improve transplant success, benefiting female patients prone to chronic kidney diseases due to hypertension, diabetes, and autoimmune disorders. Robotics ensures safer, more efficient transplants. The technology provides exceptional visibility, allowing meticulous suturing and minimal invasiveness. Additionally, it enables controlled cooling of the kidney during surgery, improving organ preservation. This advancement ensures safer, more efficient transplants with quicker patient recovery.

Dr Deepak Dubey, HOD & Consultant - Urology, Robotic Surgery, and Renal Transplantation, Manipal Hospitals Old Airport Road

"For patients with blocked blood vessels and limited dialysis options, interventional radiologists can create life-saving access points, improving longevity and kidney function."

Dr. Reddi Prasad Yadavali, Chairman & HOD of Interventional Radiology

" Kidney disease is a silent killer. Public awareness is the key. Early detection and proactive health measures can save lives. On this World Kidney Day, my message to people is to know the symptoms, be aware, stay healthy and if in trouble know that we as nephrologists stand ready to support and guide you through every step."

Dr. Garima Aggarwal, Consultant-Nephrology at Manipal Hospitals Varthur & Whitefield

On the occasion of World Kidney Day, Manipal Hospitals, in association with Vijay Karnataka, hosted the first-ever Renal Conclave on March 9, 2025. The event, themed 'Are Your Kidneys Okay?' aimed to raise awareness about kidney health and promote early intervention and prevention of kidney diseases.

Bringing together 45 leading nephrologists, transplant physicians, experts and 245 participants, the conclave served as a platform to educate both the public and medical professionals on the importance of kidney health. The event was inaugurated by Karnataka Minister of Health and Family Welfare Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, with actress Milana Nagaraj. Also present were Dr. H. Sudarshan Ballal, Chairman of Manipal Health Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. (MHEPL), Dr. Vishwanath S., HOD and Consultant-Nephrology, Kidney Transplant Physician, Dr. Deepak Dubey, HOD & Consultant - Urology, Robotic Surgery, and Renal Transplantation, Dr. Manish Rai, Zonal Director, Manipal Hospital, Old Airport Road, and Sudarshan Channangihallighi, Editor of Vijay Karnataka.

Dr. H. Sudarshan Ballal spoke about the importance of kidney care. "Our two bean-shaped kidneys work tirelessly, regulating blood pressure, hemoglobin levels, and maintaining internal balance. A routine blood test, costing less than a cup of coffee at a five-star hotel, can help monitor kidney health."

Shri Gundu Rao highlighted the prevalence of kidney-related diseases in Karnataka. "Late diagnosis and costly treatments make managing the condition difficult. The government is committed to early detection and prevention and has allocated a significant budget towards a screening program," he said.

Milana Nagaraj stressed on the importance of a healthy lifestyle. "A balanced diet, yoga and regular exercise, are crucial for well-being. Trust is the foundation of a good healthcare system, and Manipal Hospital has built a stellar reputation by providing quality care. I chose to give birth here and was impressed by the dedication of the doctors."

Sudarshan Channangihallighi, Editor of Vijay Karnataka, shed light on the dangers of adulterated food. "We worked to raise awareness about artificial food coloring, leading to a government ban."

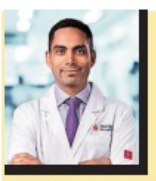
Nephrology experts also from 37 hospitals under the Manipal Hospitals banner discussed the rise in Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

By making simple lifestyle changes, reducing sugar intake, avoiding processed foods, and maintaining a healthy weight—we can protect our kidneys

—Dr. H. Sudarshan Ballal, Chairman of Manipal Health Enterprises Pvt. Ltd

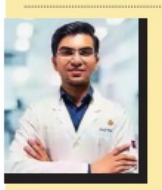
The government's initiative will focus on detecting diabetes, hypertension, and other risk factors while ensuring free medication and regular monitoring for better public health

— Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, State Health Minister



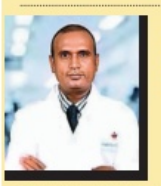
"With advancements in technology, dialysis, and transplant care, patient outcomes have significantly improved. Manipal Hospitals' expertise ensures that our patients receive the best care possible."

Dr. Rajesh M. Shetty, Chief of Clinical Services, HOD & Clinical Lead at Manipal Hospitals Whitefield



" Advances in transplants, dialysis, and treatments are revolutionising kidney care. Our mission is to ensure early detection and better patient outcomes."

Dr. Hardik Patel, Consultant-Nephrology at Manipal Hospitals Goa



"Subtle symptoms like mild swelling, headaches, or itching can signal kidney issues. Early detection is the key to preventing further damage."

Dr. Manoharan B, Senior Consultant-Nephrology at Manipal Hospitals Varthur Road

On World Kidney Day 2025, our conclave emphasizes kidney health awareness for all. Today, The way forward is clear: educate, screen, and support communities in need. By acting now, we reduce kidney failure rates and improve lives. Let's make kidney care a priority starting with this event.

Dr. Madhav Hande, Consultant-Nephrology, Renal Transplant Physician, Manipal Hospitals Whitefield

Vijay Karnataka & Bangalore Mirror felicitate path-breaking educationists

Saluting the Architects of Knowledge: Recognizing Education's Finest

Education should not only equip students with knowledge but also instill skills and ethical values that benefit society, the world, and their own families. A strong, skilled human resource base is essential for building a prosperous India," stated Union Minister for Renewable Energy, Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution, Pralhad Joshi. He was speaking at the prestigious VK & BM Education Excellence Awards 2024-25, hosted by Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror recently, where he felicitated achievers in the education sector at a private hotel in Bengaluru.

India's Advantage in the Global Talent Race

"Several countries are facing a severe shortage of workforce, and their dwindling populations have raised concerns about economic sustainability. Unlike them, India stands out with 65% of its population below the age of 35. This demographic dividend is India's strength, and the world looks at us with high expectations. To leverage this advantage, we must focus on skill development, efficiency, productivity, and ethical work culture," Joshi emphasised.

He further noted that India's credibility on the global stage is rooted in its strong moral foundation. Many nations trust Indian professionals because of their integrity. By strengthening our education system to foster a skilled and principled workforce, India can meet global demands and emerge as a leading economic power. This transformation, he stressed, cannot be achieved by the government alone—it requires active collaboration from educational institutions, experts, and teachers.

Reclaiming India's Intellectual Legacy

Highlighting India's rich academic heritage, Joshi remarked, "The concept of a spherical Earth was first proposed by Indian scholars. Pioneers like Aryabhata, Sushruta, Bhaskara, Charaka, and Swami Vivekananda have contributed immensely to global knowledge. It was India that introduced the world to the concept of zero. However, the colonial-era Macaulay education system diluted our intellectual traditions. While English has a history of 500 years, Kannada boasts a literary heritage of 2,000 years, making it a reservoir of vast knowledge. We must recognise and take pride in this legacy while shaping our education system."

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, Vijay Karnataka Editor Sudarshan Channangihalli, actress-producer Milana Nagaraj, and former ISRO Chairman & scientist A.S. Kiran Kumar participated in the VK & BM Education Excellence Awards 2024-25 in Bengaluru

Learning is Essential in Every Field

"After completing my engineering, I was at a crossroads—whether to take up a job or pursue further education. It was then that I realiSed the true value of structured learning and the importance of professional accreditation," said actress and producer Milana Nagaraj. She emphasised that educational institutions and educators play a vital role in shaping a student's personality beyond academics. "Learning is a lifelong process and remains essential across all fields. This platform has helped me understand the immense contributions of 'Vijay Karnataka' in various sectors," she added.

Proud to Honour Achievers

Vijay Karnataka's Editor, Sudarshan Channangihalli, highlighted the newspaper's broader mission beyond just reporting news. "Vijay Karnataka is not limited to journalism; it also provides a platform that supports initiatives propelling Karnataka and the nation forward," he stated. He pointed out that while governments may not always be able to recognize every achiever, institutions in the education sector have been making remarkable contributions. "Many educators and institutions have climbed the ladder of success through years of dedicated effort. Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror take pride in identifying and honoring such achievers, fostering a positive atmosphere and inspiring further contributions," he said.

Catalyst for Change

VK's Role in Elevating Karnataka as an Education Hub
With the vision of making Karnataka an education hub, Vijay Karnataka organized a Chancellors' Conclave, bringing together private university chancellors and key education leaders. The discussions centered on leveraging available resources to build a world-class academic environment, attracting students from across the country and abroad, and securing government support and priority for the sector. The key resolutions from the conclave were submitted to the government for further action. By recognizing excellence and driving transformative discussions, Vijay Karnataka continues to be a catalyst for change in the education sector, reinforcing Karnataka's position as a leading hub for learning and innovation.

Unlocking Potential: A.S. Kiran Kumar's Message to Students

Former ISRO Chairman and renowned scientist A.S. Kiran Kumar delivered an inspiring address, urging students to recognise their inner potential. "Once individuals understand their own strengths, they can lead a fulfilling life," he asserted. He highlighted how technological and social transformations are occurring at an unprecedented pace. "In earlier decades, change was gradual, and people often resisted it. However, with rapid scientific advancements, what students learn today may become obsolete next year. This presents a major challenge for both educators and learners," he explained.

Preparing for a Fast-Changing World

Kiran Kumar emphasised the need to equip students with adaptability and problem-solving skills."We must train them not just to acquire knowledge, but also to apply it creatively to unforeseen challenges. More importantly, students must learn to understand themselves and their capabilities," he added. He expressed concern over rising mental health issues among students, attributing them to a lack of self-awareness. "Our traditional education system emphasised self-discovery and co-existence with nature. In contrast, Western education compartmentalised subjects like art, science, and commerce, disrupting holistic learning. If students recognise their innate intelligence, they can harness it more effectively than artificial intelligence," he concluded. The event was a celebration of academic excellence and a clarion call to reimagine education as a tool for personal and national empowerment.

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CONGRATULATIONS

"VK and BM recognising my service and honouring me with this prestigious award has increased my responsibility and inspired me to achieve more in the field of education."
Prof. K. Anupama
Treasurer, SEA Group of Institutions

"I am extremely happy that our sincere service has been recognised and honored with a prestigious award. Heartfelt thanks to VK and BM for appreciating achievers."
Hari Narendra (Managing Director) and **Dr. Bhagyashree Hari** (Founder-CEO), Doctor Overseas.

"The guidance of my parents is the reason for receiving this special honour. I dedicate this award to my parents, who inspired my achievements, and to the teaching faculty and staff, who are the strong pillars of our institution."
Sanketh K. Shetty (Principal) & **Dr. Sowrabh K. Shetty** (Vice Principal), VIP High School and Vivekananda PU College.

"To share Dr. Kamini Rao's 50+ years of experience in the IVF field with more doctors, we have established a well-equipped academy. Thank you for this award."
Pooja Sidhartha Rao, Co-founder & MD, Medline Academics

"This award has increased my responsibility and has motivated me to do even better work. Thanks to VK and BM for this honour."
Dr. S. Girish, Chairman and Managing Trustee, The Best School of Excellence

"An old school in old Bangalore has transformed into a new avatar, prioritising quality education. This award has given us further encouragement."
Dr. Deepti Navaratna, Secretary, Pratibha Academy

"I thank VK and BM for recognising my service in the field of education. Our institution's goal is to provide quality education to students."
Dr. Thippeswamy M.N., Principal, Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Technology

"Our school provides a free learning environment for students, which has resulted in a 100% SSLC pass percentage. This award has increased our responsibility and has also encouraged us to establish more educational institutions in the future."
Suhas Subbaraju, Chairman, SVN English School

"Private educational institutions lead the way in providing quality education at the school level. We take personal care of every student. Being selected for this award and receiving this honour is truly gratifying."
Shivaraju, Secretary, SRK Education Society

"VK and BM have inspired me to achieve greater success in the field of education. This has provided an opportunity to earn even more recognition."
BS Nagabhushana, Principal, Don Bosco Group of Institutions

"Anyone can achieve success, but recognising achievers and honouring them with awards is a significant social service done by VK and BM."
B.S. Arun Kumar, General Secretary, Vasavi Vidyanikethan Trust

"Receiving an award from Kiran Kumar, who has made significant contributions to the field of science, brings me immense joy. This has further motivated me in my work."
Shiva Krishna H.R., Founder, Career Gyan Study Abroad

"Our institution has been providing technical education for the past 65 years and has won numerous awards. Among them, the VK and BM Excellence award is truly special."
Anand B, Vice-President, NTTF

"There are many private universities in the state today. Our university stands out among them. Considering our facilities and achievements, receiving this award brings great happiness. It will also help us work with even more enthusiasm in the future."
Prof D. Subhakar, Vice-Chancellor, Amity University, Bangalore

"This honor is the result of good work. The award has filled me with more energy to achieve greater success."
Dr. G.B. Eregowda
Founder, Jeevith NEET Academy.

"This award carries a great responsibility. I dedicate it to the staff and students of our institution."
Dr. Jyothi K.C., Director, Sadhana Competitive Exam Coaching Centre

"Our institution provides an excellent learning environment. Such encouragement will enable us to achieve even greater success."
Dhananjaya Gangadharaiah, President, National Public School, Sarjapur & National Public School, Vidyaranyapura

"Being recognised by VK and BM, esteemed newspapers rather than just any organisation, is truly an honor and a matter of great pride."
Basavaraj Ramanal, Chairman, Karnataka College Group of Institutions

"There is intense competition in the field of nursing and allied sciences. It is commendable that our teaching methods have been recognised and selected for this prestigious award."
Shwetha K. Gowda, Chairperson, Cura College of Nursing & Allied Health Sciences

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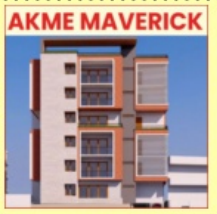
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CHANGE OF NAME

I, BABA KHAN, R/a .#13, Masjid Street, Neelsandra Bangalore - 47. I, have Changed my name to KAREEM BABA KHAN, Vide affidavit ,dated 10/03/2025 Sworn before Notary: M.Rajendra. Bangalore

I, Shrilatha Shambhu Shetty R/o No.233, 3rd C Cross, 3rd Stage,3rd Block,Basaveshwara -nagar, Bengaluru 560079 have changed my name to Shrilatha Shetty Affidavit Dt.12/05/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Yash Gautam Chand Kankaria R/o 44,2nd Floor, 3rd Cross, Vasanthanagar B'luru-560001 have changed my name to Yash Kankaria.

I, Rajesh Kumar Pranlal Sanghrajka S/o, Pranlal Keshavji Sanghrajka R/o Q 1701, Mantri Serenity Apts Kan -akpura Road, Doddakalsandra Bangalore 560062 have changed my name to Rajesh Pranlal Sanghrajka for all purposes.

I, Rihan Mohammed R/o 173,1st Floor, 2nd Main,11th Cross, Vinayaka Nagar, Annasandrapalya Extn, B'luru-560017 have changed my minor son's name from Armaan Mohammed to Armaan Rihan Mohammed for all purposes.

I, Nanjegowda.A.R R/o Arema - llenahalli Village, Dabbeghatta Hobli,Turuvekere Taluk, Tumakuru 572224,Ka have changed my minor daughter's name from Moksha.N To Buvana.N for all purposes.

I, Aishwarya R/o No.16/2, Gollara Obalappa street, Near Lalbagh west gate,Chikkamava -lli,Bengaluru 560004 have chan -ged my name to Aishwarya Srirangaprabhu (S Aishwarya) Affidavit Dt.12/03/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

WE, Mahesh Mohanam and Sahana Bhat r/o #1045, 19th Main, Btm Layout, 2nd Stage, Bangalore 560076 have changed our minor son's name from Medhaansh to Medhaansh Mahesh vide affidavit dated 08.03.2025 sworn before Notary Mr. H S Sakalesh Aradhya

I, ABDUL KAREEM, R/a#13, Masjid Street, Neelsandra, Bangalore-47. I, have Changed my name to ABDUL KAREEM KHAN, Vide affidavit, dated 10/03/2025 Sworn before Notary: M.Rajendra. Bangalore

I, Shrithish.S S/o Sridhar Narayan Poojari R/o 26/1,No 29,5Th Cross,Nyanappanahalli Village, R R Layout,B G Road, B'luru 560076 have changed my name to Sritish Sridhar Poojari For All Purposes.

I, Venkatalakshmamma Siddappa R/o No.389/6A Vishwasa, 7th Blk, Nagarbhavi 2nd stg B'luru 560072 have changed my name to Venkatalakshmamma Affidavit Dt.12/03/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, JAVERIA FATIMA W/o. Mohmed Heytheshamuddin, residing at No. 163, 4th Cross, Lakshmi Layout, Arekere, Bangalore-560076, declaring that both JAVERIA FATIMA and JAVERIA FATIMA IKRAMI names are one and the same belongs to me only and I use JAVERIA FATIMA for all future correspondences, vide affidavit dated 11.03.2025, sworn before notary Aravind Patil G.G, Bangalore.

I, Prema w/o Maheshwarappa Janthikolala chandappa R/o Haronahalli, Channagiri, Davangere 577213 present camp Bengaluru have changed my name to Premamma Channavirappa, Gopanahal, Affidavit Dt.12/03/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, DIMPLE A MIRGHA M/o JEHAN MIRGHA R/a Flat-604, Mantri Lithos Aprt, Rachenahalli, Bengaluru-560045. We have Changed our my son name to JEHAN A MIRGHA. Vide Affidavit dated on 14/02/2025. Sworn before Notary Kodi Nagappaya Bengaluru.

I, Bharati Kataraki, W/o. Prashantha Kumar T M aged about 43 years, residing at No.396/275/1, Flat No.011, Ground Floor, Vastu Hill View 3, Near SNMC Hospital, Bangarappa Nagar, Ideal Homes, H V Halli, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru 560098. I have changed my name to BHARATI S KATARAKI , VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED:08.03.2025 before notary K V PREMA KUMARI, Bangalore

I, Kuruba Meena Nanda Gopal W/o. K.B. Nanda Gopal, r/@No.66, 2nd Main, Kanshiram nagar, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bangalore-97, would henceforth be known as KN MEENA NANDA GOPAL vide affidavit dt: 7-3-25 sworn before notary K.C. Pemmaiah, Blr.

I, Preksha D/o Praveen Ranka R/o No.748 15th Main Road Bidarahalli Bsk 2nd Stage Bengaluru 560070 have changed my name to Preksha Ranka Affidavit Dt.12/03/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I,FARHAN Taj fairoz Basha W/o Burhan R/o #14,4th Cross,4th Main Rd Madiwala B'lore-560068 have changed my name to Farhan Taj.

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Forest encroachment data: KFD report contradicts minister's disclosed figures

Experts highlight inconsistencies, questioning department's efforts in addressing issue

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) has released its interim annual report on forest encroachment cases. The document details the number of encroachment cases recorded by the department between March and December 2024, along with historical cases and other statistics.

According to the report, the department registered 901 fresh encroachment cases across Karnataka between March and December 2024. As of March 31, 2024, as many as 45,600 encroachment cases were pending.

However, experts point out that the KFD's data does not align with the information shared by the Karnataka Forest Minister during the Legislative Council session in July last year. At the time, the minister stated that over 1.25 lakh forest encroachment cases had been registered as of March 2024.

Out of these cases, the department managed to address just over 7,000, evicting encroachments from 11,677.4 hectares of forest land. Despite these efforts, over 1.18 lakh cases remain unresolved, with the total forest area under encroachment estimated at 84,256.35 hectares.

"The number of encroachment cases quoted by the minister is three times higher than what is mentioned in the department's report. This inconsistency raises concerns about the department's commitment to tackling the problem. Large areas of forest land are being illegally occupied, yet officials seem more focused on development work," said a wildlife conservationist.

The report also claims that no fresh encroachment has been reported in the state during the period in question. However, the same document, acknowledges that 901 new encroachments occurred across Karnataka between April and December 2024.

Among these, the highest number of encroachment cases was recorded in the Dharwad Circle (312), followed by Shivamogga (121) and Belagavi (125), bringing the total to 901.

Notably, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) wrote to the state government in August last year regarding the high number of fresh encroachment cases. The letter, addressed to the Additional Chief Secretary of the Forest, Ecology, and Environment Department, was a response to a citizen's complaint about the Karnataka Forest Department's failure to prevent encroachments.

In its letter, the MoEF&CC urged the state government to take action against forest officials who failed to prevent encroachments in Bengaluru, Belagavi, Hassan, and Shivamogga circles, in accordance with the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

MoveInSync's plan for Bengaluru decongestion

A step towards addressing Bengaluru's traffic congestion, Deepesh Agarwal, Co-founder and CEO of MoveInSync, submitted a comprehensive set of recommendations to Shri Priyank Kharge, Minister for IT&BT, Government of Karnataka on February 12. The report, compiled in collaboration with the Outer Ring Road Companies Association (ORRCA), offers crucial insights and strategies to alleviate the city's growing traffic woes.

Key recommendations

Once hailed as the 'Garden City,' Bengaluru is now synonymous with gridlocked roads. The city's population has surged from 71 lakh in 2006 to a staggering 1.4 crore in 2024. Meanwhile, the number of vehicles has more than doubled in just a decade, reaching 1.04 crore in 2022. Bengaluru's commuters now spend an average of 8% of their daily lives stuck in traffic, with one-way commute times increasing by nearly 15% in just five years.

The report outlines seven major initiatives to tackle Bengaluru's traffic crisis. It calls for an expansion of the BMTC fleet, highlighting the need for 16,800 buses to meet demand, as the city's population has grown 1.5 times since 2014.

Cops penalise violators, collect ₹6.4 lakh fines

The Traffic West Division conducted an extensive enforcement drive targeting traffic rule violators, focusing on reckless motorists and riders across all its station limits. In a single day, authorities registered 1,178 cases, collecting a total of ₹6,43,200 in fines.

Among the various violations, triple riding was flagged as a serious concern, with 30 cases booked, resulting in fines totalling ₹15,000. The use of mobile phones while riding or driving, another rising issue, accounted for 20 cases, leading to penalties amounting to ₹21,400. Parking violations emerged as the most frequently recorded offence, with 243 cases registered and fines totalling ₹1,50,800. Meanwhile, 885 cases were recorded under various other traffic violations, contributing to fines worth ₹4,56,000.

Traffic police officials emphasised that the purpose of the special drive was not just to penalise offenders but also to spread awareness. "Strict enforcement is necessary to ensure compliance with traffic norms," said an official.

Women's Day with Sudha Murty

The FLO Bangalore Chapter marked the Women's Day celebration with Sudha Murty, whose wisdom, humility, and razor-sharp intellect left an indelible mark on everyone present.

Her real-life anecdotes, sharp humour, and remarkable ability to engage with people made the conversation not just inspiring but deeply personal. She wove her experiences into powerful lessons that reminded us of the true essence of success, compassion, and purpose.

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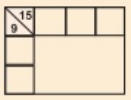
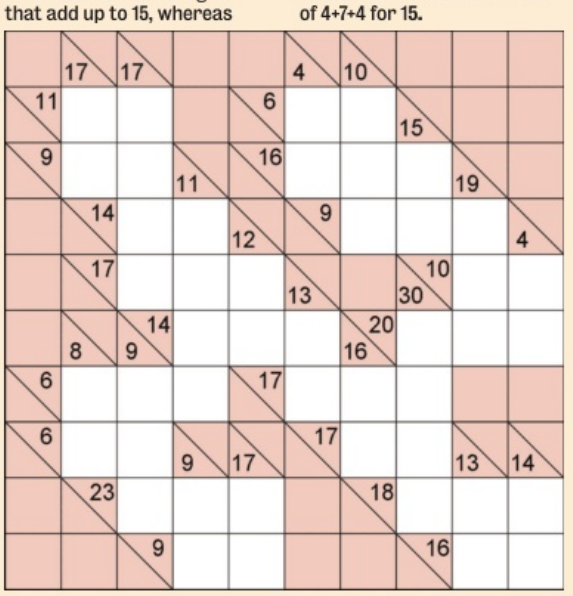
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

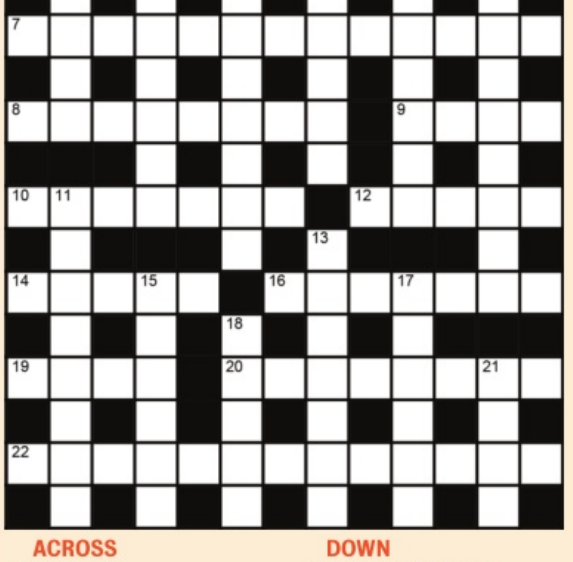


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Purify (13)
8 First showing of play or film (8)
9 Grow weary (4)
10 The truth (7)
12 Pulsate (5)
14 Condition (5)
16 Concoct or fabricate a lie? (7)
19 Courage (4)
20 Type of headache (8)
22 Scarce (2,5,6)

DOWN

1 Portent master (4)
2 Ordinary (6)
3 Urban roads (7)
4 Plant firmly (5)
5 Tell on (6)
6 Commence (5,3)
11 Going in (8)
13 One of Malleshwaram's main streets (7)
15 Irritable (US) (6)
17 Boggy or muddy (6)
18 Intelligent (5)
21 Little ___ : Dickensian character? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: C EQUALS T

CBU EFUNCUKC HY YHIIMUK MK CH KNQFMYMQU BUNICB YHF NVZ HCBUF DMVL HY BNAAMVUKK.

Linemaro

Are you made of Copper and Tellurium? Because you are Cu-Te

Mindchow

Deep doubts, deep wisdom; small doubts, little wisdom

Joke of the day

What is Trump telling Obama supporters? Orange is the new Black

Loop

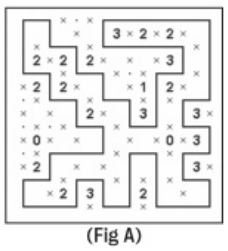
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

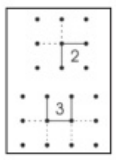
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

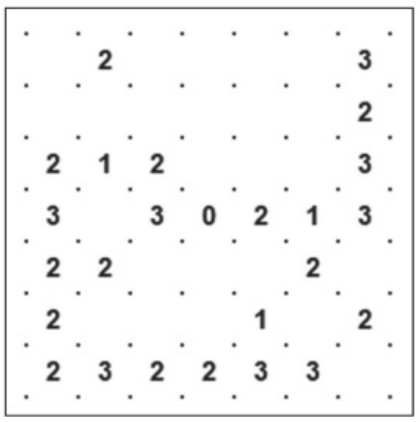
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



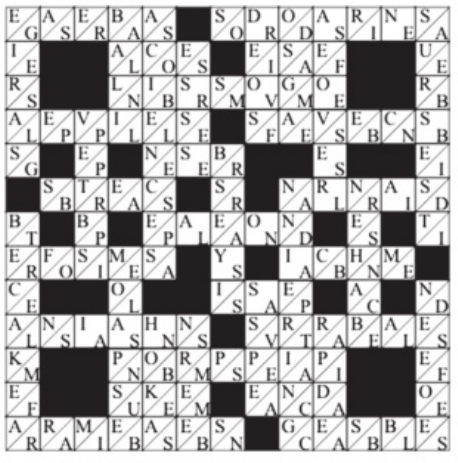
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



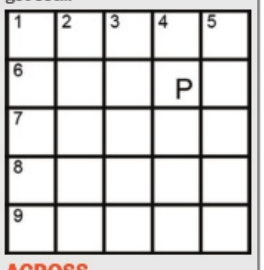
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

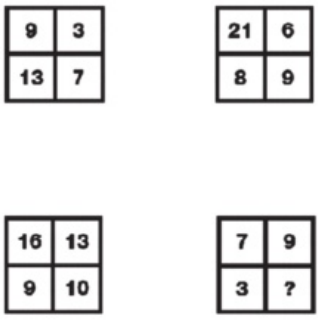
1 Learn; 6 E Pole; 7 Anne's; 8 Armee; 9 Twain

DOWN

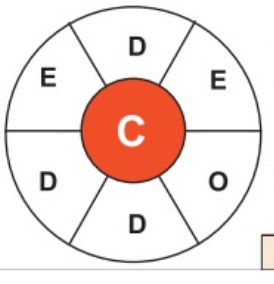
1 Wears; 2 Emile; 3 Tenon; 4 An ape; 5 Renal

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the sequence?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

1		8				3		7
		9	8		3	1		
	4						6	
	9		6		4		3	
	3		9		7		8	
	6		1		2		5	
	8						1	
		3	2		5	4		
9		4				5		6

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

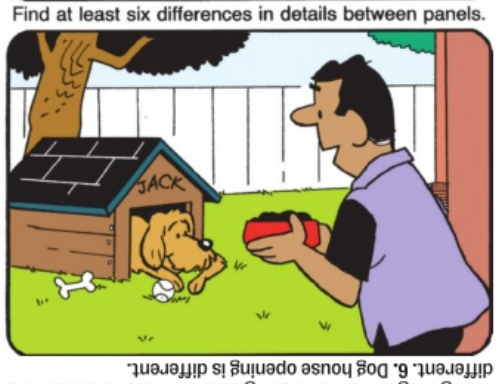
Easy = 5
2 3 4 8

Medium = 11
1 2 3 7

Hard = 25
2 4 9 9

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Thumb is moved. 2. Bowl is larger. 3. Dog's leg is moved. 4. Shingles are different. 5. Sleeve is different. 6. Dog house opening is different.

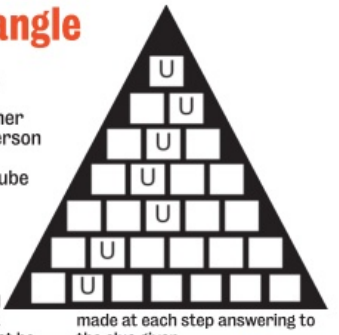
Riddler

For each of the following word pairs, you are looking for a two word answer. The first is a rhyme of the first word and gives the category. The second word is a rhyme and is a specific word in that category. For example, "Kitty, Tennis" translates to "City, Venice".

1. Fainter, Jolly 2. Slumber, Heaven
3. Reason, Printer 4. Quiver, Bongo

Alpha triangle

1 A type of turn
2 Trade Union, abbr.
3 Nevertheless
4 Cylindrical container
5 Cruel or unkind person
6 Dairy product
7 Graduated glass tube



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

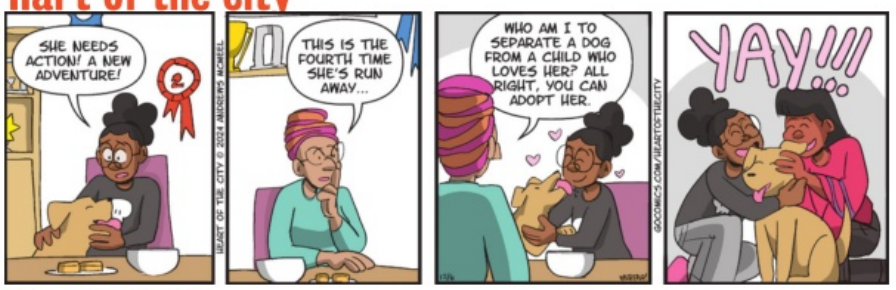
Popeye

BUNNY IS TAKING THE NEWS OF ME BEING POOR VERY WELL!
WHERE IS SHE?
SHE WANTED TO BE ALONE SO SHE COULD THINK ABOUT HER NEW MIDDLE-CLASS SITUATION!
?
!
WOE!
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


SHE NEEDS ACTION! A NEW ADVENTURE!
THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME SHE'S RUN AWAY...
WHO AM I TO SEPARATE A DOG FROM A CHILD WHO LOVES HER? ALL RIGHT, YOU CAN ADOPT HER.
YAY!!!
HART OF THE CITY © 2024 ARIESHEN MOREEL
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Crankshaft

BEFORE WE GET TO THE HOLIDAY CONCERT MUSIC...
I HAVE A FEW RULES.
FIRST... NO TEXTING WHILE PLAYING!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
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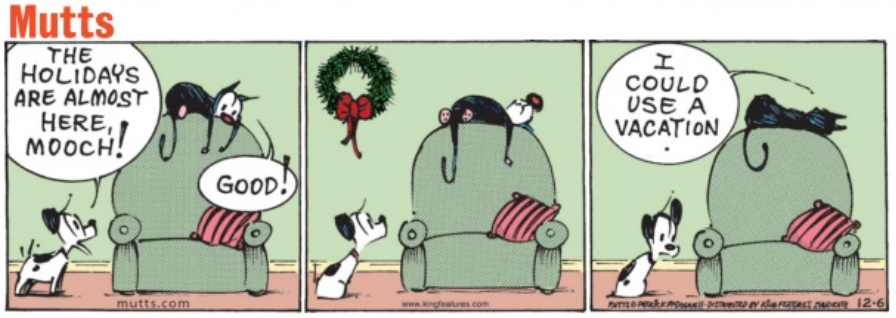
12-6

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be busy with social and family events. Your polite nature will enhance your image among friends and relatives. You might spend money on artifacts or other items to improve your social status. Expect some good news from a close relative.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Disputes with siblings may finally be resolved, strengthening your bond with them. Your energy levels will be high, allowing you to complete difficult tasks with ease. A short work-related trip may help you expand your professional network. Helping a needy person will further boost your social standing.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You may feel dull and experience some health issues today. An old ailment could resurface, so take extra care of your health. Avoid risky adventures or fast driving. Conflicts with your business partner may arise, so postpone important decisions and investments for now. By late evening, things should settle down.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Your inner strength will bring happiness today. Small gains from investments may come your way. Your relationship with your boss will improve, potentially leading to a promotion. Your social prestige will rise, and you may travel for work-related matters.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
A favorable day awaits, as you will feel enthusiastic and highly focused on work and business. Your dedication will likely lead to promotions. Your boss will support your work-related decisions. A visit to a religious place is possible. However, avoid ego and arrogance in your love life to maintain harmony.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
You may feel low due to lack of proper rest. Your arrogance could lead to disputes with your spouse, affecting domestic harmony. Avoid making new investments in risky assets. Students should focus on their studies. Lovebirds should maintain some distance to prevent misunderstandings.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Patience is key today. Avoid adventure trips for now. Past investments may not yield expected returns. Overworking could leave you exhausted. Students should put in extra effort. Take care of your health, as back pain, nervous system issues, liver problems, or skin concerns may arise.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
A good day for financial gains. Investors may see good returns, improving their financial health. Stuck money may be recovered, increasing liquidity in business. Your confidence will be high, giving you control over hidden enemies and competitors. Singles may find a romantic connection within their workplace.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Your work performance will be excellent today. Strong bonds with seniors may lead to new responsibilities and possible promotions. Chronic health issues may improve. Your efforts will be recognized, and past disputes with siblings will be resolved. Job seekers may find new opportunities.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
You will be focused on your children's education today and may plan for their higher studies. Couples may receive good news regarding their children. You might consider furthering your own education for career advancement. Singles may find their soulmate.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may struggle with responsibilities and feel disconnected from reality today. Investments could lead to financial losses, so be cautious. Carefully read any documents before signing. Concerns about an elder's health may trouble you. If you're planning home renovations, it's best to postpone them for now.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Helping those in need will enhance your social reputation. Your hard work will pay off, allowing you to complete tasks ahead of schedule. Expect good news from a sibling. However, overworking may lead to exhaustion. Avoid stress, as it could impact both your personal and professional life. Meditation and fasting may help bring balance.

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
½ + ½ = 1
½ + ⅓ = ⅚
⅓ + ⅓ = ⅔

BULL'S EYE
code, coded, code, coded, decode, DECODED

FAST FIVE

R	E	N	A	L
S	E	N	N	A
E	L	O	P	E
A	M	E	E	R
W	I	T	A	N

QUOTE UNCODE
The greatest of follies is to sacrifice health for any other kind of happiness.

STRIKE OUT

G	A	R	B	S		O	R	D	A	I	N	S		
I		A	C		E		I	A	F			U		
R		L	I	S	S	O	M	E			B			
L	E	V	I	E	S		S	E	V	E	N	S		
S		E		N	E	B			E			I		
B	R	A	C		R		A	R	R	A	S			
A	S	I	A	N	S		S	T	A	B	L	E		
E		L		S	A	P		A			D			
R	O	S	E	S		Y		A	C	H	E			
B	B		E	L	A	N	D		E			T		

QUICK

S		N		S		E		S		S				
		S	H	O	R	T		S	U	P	P	L	Y	

MENSA PUZZLE
1. Painter, Dali,
2. Number, Seven,
3. Season, Winter &
4. River, Congo

RIDDLER
5. Add together numbers in corresponding segments of the outer four squares. The answer is placed in the diagonally opposite segment of the middle square.

SUDOKU

9	2	4	3	1	8	5	7	6
7	1	3	2	6	5	4	9	8
5	8	6	7	4	9	2	1	3
8	6	7	1	3	2	9	5	4
4	3	1	9	5	7	6	8	2
2	9	5	6	8	4	7	3	1
3	4	2	5	7	1	8	6	9
6	7	9	8	2	3	1	4	5
1	5	8	4	9	6	3	2	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
U, TU, But,
Tube, Brute,
Butter,
Burette.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 3 − 2 − 4 = 5
Medium
3 + 7 + 2 − 1 = 11
Hard
9 x 4 − 9 − 2 = 25

LOOP

KAKURO

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The area is secure

Rajamouli ramps up security measures to prevent PC-Mahesh Babu-starrer detail leaks

Bollywood star Priyanka Chopra has sent fans into a tizzy after sharing some behind-the-scenes glimpses from the sets of SSMB29, her next Indian film that will see her starring alongside superstar Mahesh Babu, Prithviraj Sukumaran and director SS Rajamouli.

The team is currently filming in Odisha, where Rajamouli has reportedly ramped up security measures to prevent any leaks about the plot or filming details. Given the immense expectations surrounding the film, the director has reportedly implemented strict policies on set, which include a cap on electronic devices, except walkie-talkies, states a MidDay report.

With additional security personnel and other local officials, the filmmaker is ensuring that no unauthorized footage is released on social media. Rajamouli is currently filming in the breathtaking Deomali Hills, the highest peak in Odisha, nestled in the heart of tribal land. Surrounded by villages inhabited by indigenous communities, the location offers a rich and untouched landscape.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD
SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Actor by accident

BS Avinash from Jayanagar became an actor by accident. Avinash, a businessman, had never dreamt of becoming an actor as he had no film or theatre background. His casual talk with Chiranjeevi Sarja facilitated him to meet film director and actor Pannaga Bharana.

"Pannaga Bharana introduced me to cinematographer Bhuvan Gowda. I had a photo shoot under Bhuvan Gowda, who promised me to give my photos to director Prashanth Neel. My joy knew no bounds when Prashanth Neel asked me to give an audition," said Avinash with a smile.

Avinash debuted as an actor with KGF. "Prashanth Neel organised a workshop for us for more than one year," he said. He acted in the 2023 Kannada movie Hoysala. He has also acted in Telugu movies Veera Simha Reddy and Waltair Veerayya. His Tamil movies are: Kather Basha Endra Muthuramalingam, Kanguva, Vettaiyan, and Good Bad Ugly. "I acted in the Malayalam movie Oru Perumkaliyattam. My Telugu movies Kingdom, NKR21, Ustaad Bhagat Singh, and Nagabandham are yet to be released. I am waiting for the right chance in Kannada movies," he said.

A sequel to Nagarahavu!

Nagarahavu directed by veteran director Puttanna Kanagal was remade in Telugu and other languages. Now, a movie, based on the characters of Nagarahavu, is in the making. The film, Chamayya s/o Ramachari, is directed by Pallakki. The movie's trailer was unveiled at SRV Theater recently. Radhakrishna Pallakki is bankrolling the movie under the Jolige Cinemas banner.

Pallakki recalled how he met Dr Vishnuvardhan during the shooting of Kannada movie Ee Bandhana and narrated the script to him. "Dr Vishnuvardhan liked the script. I wanted to make a movie with him but he passed away. I decided to make the movie after watching a play in North Karnataka. I was thrilled to watch Jayasri Raj acting on the stage," director Pallakki said. The director said that Ramachari dies in the climax of Nagarahavu but in this movie Ramachari returns to the village and people hate him. "Pailwan Basappa gives a job to Ramachari at a drama company where he meets a girl. They become a couple and give birth to a baby boy. He is Chamayya. The movie revolves around Chamayya," he said.

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